

Received & Inspected
OCT 18 2012
FCC Mail Room

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIGHT PETITION (CC DOCKET #96-128)

DEAR CHAIRMAN GENACHOWSKI,

OCTOBER 3, 2012

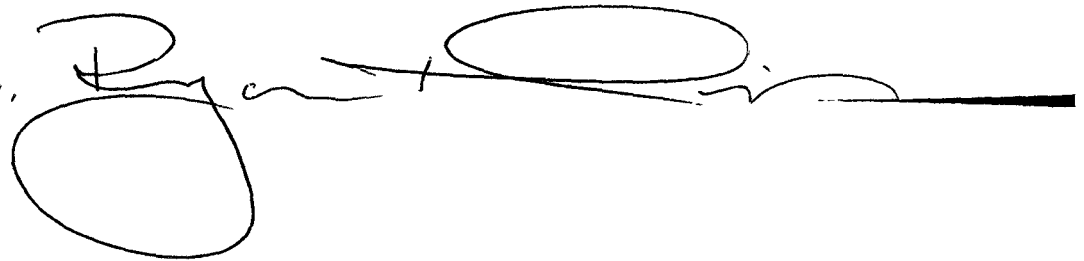
THE HIGH COST OF PRISON PHONE CALLS IS ONE OF THE MOST DISGUSTING OCCURENCES HAPPENING RIGHT NOW IN THE AMERICAN JUDICAL SYSTEM.

ALLOWING COMPANIES TO PROFIT OFF OF THE FAMILY'S OF PRISONERS (AT AN UNFAIR AND UNJUST RATE) IS WRONG IN EVERY SENCE OF THE WORDS.

I DON'T ASK YOU TO FEEL SORRY FOR PRISONERS SUCH AS MYSELF, BUT I DO ^{ASK} YOU TO PLEASE DO WHAT IS MORALLY RIGHT AND END THIS SHAMEFUL PRACTICE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME IN THIS MATTER.

SINCERELY,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Michael Hill". The signature is written over the word "SINCERELY," and extends across the width of the page.

RYAN MICHAEL HILL

#2130948

50 CROSSROADS DR.

SHELBY, MT 59474-9248

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"This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket#96-128)

OCT 18 2012

FCC Mail Room

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

"Dear Chairman Genachowski,"

My name is Stanley Washington and I'm writing you to share my story of how the telephone system (Global Tel*link) used by the state of Pa nearly destroyed my relationship with my mom. My mother retired from her job two years ago due to clinical depression. And for awhile after her retirement I was able to talk to her every Sunday which her Dr. said helped her depression immensely. What I didn't know was my mom was spending her life savings to accept my calls. When the money ran out I was unable to get in touch with my mom for months and I didn't know why. I wrote her letters that went unanswered, I sent my wife to her house and she wouldn't answer the door and again I didn't know why. Only after my 81 year old grandfather found a letter that I had written to my mom and got in contact with my wife did I find out what was going on. My mom was so embarrassed to tell me that she couldn't afford to answer my calls that she barricaded herself in her house falling deeper into depression because she felt like she failed me as a mother for being unable to answer my calls. My wife who lives a half hour away and who also works 3 to 11 Monday through Friday had to pick up my grandfather and drive to my mom's house every Sunday morning for several months before they were finally able to convince her that I wasn't upset and that I didn't think it was her fault that I wasn't able to call. They also were able to convince her to come with my wife to visit me where I was able to tell her face to face that I wasn't upset and that I was sorry that she spent her life savings answering my calls. Mr. Chairman what hurts me the most is that I have been doing everything humanly possible to get home so that I can help my mother, but now I live everyday with the burden of having possibly hurt her more than I can ever help her because she spent her life savings on those calls.

Sincerely depressed in Pennsylvania,
Stanley Washington
State Correctional Institution at Greene County

GRATER FRIENDS

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Promoting a humane, just and constructive correctional system and a rational approach to criminal justice since 1787

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June 2010

ON THE RIGHT PATH

2010 PRISONER OF THE YEAR HONOREE

Stanley Washington, CE-1247, SCI Greensburg

The Prisoner of the Year Award is presented to individuals in recognition of their constant efforts to improve themselves and the world around them, the hope they ignite in others, and the positive and effective leadership they provide.

First and foremost, I would like to thank God for guiding me in the direction of seeking peace, being remorseful, and for meeting Debra Germany, Prison Society Official Visitor Cconvener at SCI Laurel Highlands/Somerset.

I read a newspaper article about her in which she held a violence prevention forum in 2005 at Columbus Middle School on Pittsburgh's northside. Reading the article pulled at my heart because I had committed a violent crime and I understood the effect of committing that crime.

Because Mrs. Germany is a mother who had lost her only child to violence, I could imagine how tough it must have been for her to do what she was doing. And I thought I should (as well as others in my shoes) be paying attention to the Debra Germany's of the world.

Before reading the article, I had thought of myself as being remorseful. But after reading it, I said to myself: "Who other than me knows it?"

So I leaped out on faith, wrote Mrs. Germany a letter, and told her that I commended her for being brave enough to go forward and to do what she was doing. I also told her that her remarkable work was not going unnoticed. And Mrs. Germany responded to that letter.

She wrote: "When my son was killed, I asked God to give me the opportunity to help a young man who had

committed a homicide, who was truly remorseful; someone who truly wanted to give back. Someone who had a testimony that would touch the heart of another young man not to travel down that same road." And, she stated, she believed that young man could be me.

I had already been whispering to young men and telling them that we could do better. But she inspired me to speak out loud to anybody and everybody who would listen. She inspired me to shout that we were more and we owed more because of the crimes we had committed.

Mediocre is something I've never wanted to be so I accepted her challenge to make a difference. And, I am diligent in doing so.

I never thought about awards or recognition. I only thought that it was a duty to myself, Mrs. Germany, my mother, and mothers of young men who had succumbed to violence to touch as many lives as I possibly could.

So today, I am humbled to be the recipient of an award of such distinction and prestige. Because of Mrs. Germany, I am a product of her belief in me, due diligence, and faith.

I would like to thank the Prison Society, its board, staff, and supporters because you believe in prisoner rehabilitation and in second chances. And, I would like to thank Mrs. Germany; the staff of Divine Intervention Ministries; my mother, Joanne Washington; and Jackie McCrommon for their unwavering support.

By no means is my work done, nor is my debt to society or my community fully paid. I will work at this for the rest of my life; this is just the beginning. And being the recipient of this award has reenergized me and reaffirmed that I am indeed on the right path. ■